

## FMB Names First Couple For Bolivia

RIDGECREST, N.C. — Former Mississippians William and Judy Davis have been named as the first Southern Baptist missionaries to enter Bolivia.

The couple was among 55 people named as new missionaries June 28-29 by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, during its annual meeting at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

After months of exploring the possibility of mission work and following Bolivia Baptists' invitation to bring Southern Baptist missionaries into the country, the couple will go to the western South American country, where he will be a general evangelist and she will be involved in home and church work.

Currently Davis is pastor of Hales Chapel Baptist Church, Zebulon, N.C.—a position he has held since 1975.

Born in Hammond, La., Davis grew up in Newton, and Clinton, Miss.; Red Springs and Cary, N.C. He was graduated from Mississippi State University, Starkville, with the bachelor of science degree; and from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., with the master of divinity degree. He also attended Clarke College, Newton, Miss., and Memphis (Tenn.) State University.

Davis has also been associate pastor



William and Judy Davis

of Spilman Memorial Baptist Church, Kinston, N.C., and pastor of Trenton (N.C.) Baptist Church.

The former Judy Smith of Mississippi, Mrs. Davis was born in Vicksburg and lived near Eupora, while growing up. She was graduated from Clarke College with the associate of arts degree; and attended Blue Mountain College, and Mississippi State University. They have two daughters, Victoria Elaine and Anna Michele.

## Calvary, Pascagoula Initiates BMT Financing

On Tuesday evening, June 28, 1978, the deacons and staff of Calvary Baptist Church, Pascagoula, approved and launched what is believed to be the first formal campaign in the nation designed specifically to raise funds for the Bold Mission Thrust.

"We have had a growing concern about our need for a greater commitment to missions," said pastor Byron Mathis. "and this new campaign gives

## State CP Gifts Pass Halfway Mark

Mississippi Baptists came to the halfway mark in the year with 51 percent of the annual budget goal realized, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Through the first six months of this year the Cooperative Program receipts through the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board amounted to \$4,403,687, which was a 14.7 per cent increase over the same period of 1977. This increase amounted to \$563,008.

The budget figure for the six-month period was \$4,318,002. This means that the six-month period was closed with receipts \$85,685 ahead of the budget.

For June of this year the Cooperative Program receipts were \$761,842, or a 5 percent increase over the same month of last year. This was an increase of \$36,238.

"This has been the greatest year in missions giving in the history of the Mississippi Baptist Convention thus far," Kelly said, "and I am sure it will continue to be throughout the remainder of the year. Mississippi Baptists continue to be keenly conscious of the needs of missions efforts around the world, and they will continue to seek to meet those needs to the extent of their ability."

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' unified and voluntary method of financing their missions efforts in the states, across the nation, and around the world and also the many supporting agencies that are located in the states and on the national level.

## Ballard White's Ministry Earns Sioux Acceptance

By Phyllis Faulkenbury  
EAGLE BUTTE, S. D. (BP) — Missionaries Ballard and Bonita White, driving a dusty, battered station wagon, approached a young Sioux Indian on horseback.

As they drove close, the couple could see the youngster was crying. They waved—and drove on by.

The incident occurred about three years into their ministry with the Indians. "If it had happened two years earlier, we would have stopped and tried to help," said White, "and we would have lost that boy. In Sioux tradition, you don't see a man cry. We wanted to honor that tradition."

White, appointed missionary-pastor by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, moved to South Dakota 12 years ago. At first, White, and his wife and two sons, lived 89 miles from the reservation and visited Eagle Butte on weekends. "I think the Home Mission Board was trying to break us in

gently," he said. "But the only way to help people here is on a one-to-one basis, and to do that, you have to live with them to develop bonds of trust."

In the beginning, adjustment was trying. The nearest physician and shopping center were 100 miles away. To the Indians, who were well acquainted with the Catholics and Episcopalians (the established churches on the reservation) Baptists were a breed apart.

White was concerned about his family. "It was hard for me to see my oldest son come home from school every day with his lip swollen, his body bruised from the fights" to prove he was worthy of acceptance. But that was over in a few months. "Still," he said, "it took six or seven years to feel really accepted."

Pressures occur as the spirit of traditionalism encounters progressive ways on the Cheyenne River Reservation. It may be particularly difficult

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## SBC Gift To India

# 'Miss-A-Meal' Money Goes To Nutritional Village

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP) — Money given by Southern Baptists for world hunger at their annual convention in Atlanta will be used to feed hun-

gry children in the Nutritional Village at the Bangalore Baptist Hospital in India.

Southern Baptists gave \$14,262 in a

"miss-a-meal" project at the convention, June 13-15. The Foreign Mission Board appropriated that money plus more than \$90,000 in additional funds for 11 other hunger and relief projects in its June 27-29 meeting.

The Nutritional Village, organized a little over a year ago, teaches mothers to prepare locally available foods in a way which retains nutrients. The mothers bring their starving or malnourished children to the center to live while they learn. A garden plot, mural graph and poster visual aids, and lectures are also part of the training.

In other action, the board allocated \$8,000 to provide relief and basic food needs for people in Rhodesia forced from their homes by guerrilla actions. A band of such guerrillas murdered Archie G. Dunaway Jr., a Southern Baptist missionary, on June 15 at the Sanyati compound.

The largest of the other appropriations was \$25,000 to reconstruct a portion of the Baptist building complex in Guatemala City, Guatemala. Although the damage was sustained during the 1976 earthquake, it was not discovered until a recent inspection. Missionaries, who have been busy for two years rebuilding houses and churches, report that major structural damage

to the building will necessitate demolishing part of the old structure.

Another relief project received \$20,000 for the start of a well-drilling program in Haiti. A volunteer well driller is available to begin work as soon as supplies and materials arrive in Haiti.

Two appropriations of \$10,000 each will aid people forced from their homes. One project will assist refugees of a volcanic eruption in the Ambon region of Indonesia who need water pumps, fishing nets and other necessities to continue living as they have in the past.

The other appropriation will aid thousands of Bengali Muslims, who are being run out of Burma into Bangladesh and are living in camps without any of the basic necessities of life. The government is beginning to help, but Baptist efforts are still needed.

Another \$7,500 will be spent for a self-help project in the Baguio City area of the Philippines which will allow tribal people to work through a cooperative handicraft project. An appropriation of \$4,200 will be used to finance digging an irrigation well in Kogilu, India; and \$3,000 to help Uganda.

(Continued on page 2)

## Henderson Joins Staff For Stewardship Work

Guy Henderson begins duties this week as missionary-in-residence for the Stewardship Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. He will become a member of the department staff on September 1, serving as a consultant with special responsibility for Cooperative Program promotion.

Henderson and his wife Lois have been serving the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as missionaries to the Philippines. They come to Jackson from Manila where Guy was pastor of the English-speaking International Baptist Church.

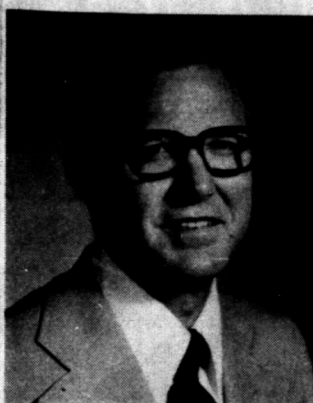
Lois, in addition to her homemaking duties, taught a Sunday School class, was church organist, secretary and youth choir director.

Guy, a native of Mississippi, was born in Jackson and grew up on a farm south of Forest. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. Mrs. Henderson, the former Lois Robertson of Texas, was born in Alice and grew up in Sinton. She attended Howard Payne College in Brownwood, Tex., Mississippi College and what is now Gulf Park Junior College in Long Beach.

The couple has four children. Two are grown and Patricia was born in 1960 and Angela in 1967.

In 1971, Guy served for several

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Henderson

## Slain Missionary's Colleagues Intent On Returning To Africa

By Ruth Fowler  
RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP) — One of their missionary colleagues has been killed by guerrilla forces, but their commitment is clear — Southern Baptist missionaries now in the United States on furlough from eastern and southern Africa indicate they have

every intention of going back.

The stabbing death of Archie G. Dunaway Jr. by guerrillas on Sanyati (Rhodesia) Baptist Compound, June 15, brought grief to missionaries around the world. But missionaries, attending the annual Ridgecrest Foreign Missions Conference, said they plan to return to their mission work, whether in Rhodesia or in more peaceful nations such as Kenya and Tanzania.

Eugene and Reva Milby, for example, are stationed at Plumtree, Rhodesia, two miles from the Botswana border. They understand that the government or the mission (organization of missionaries in Rhodesia) may tell them it would be too dangerous to return there.

"If they said I couldn't go back to my work in that area, I'd have to re-evaluate," Milby said. "I think we

would have to determine if we would want to transfer to another field." But the Milbys agree that they intend to work at Plumtree, "until the door slams shut."

Ed and Mary Ann (Missy) Moses had been stationed at Sanyati, living next door to the Dunaways, until their recent transfer to the newly independent land of Bophuthatswana.

"I had the place I would hide if guerrillas came all picked out," Mrs. Moses said. "But I wasn't really afraid. I had been sent this scripture, 'the gates shall not be closed.'"

They trusted God to keep them in Rhodesia as long as he wanted them there. Then the call to go to Bophuthatswana became as strong as the call had been to work in Rhodesia.

As a pharmacist and church worker in Bophuthatswana they will not be re-

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## In Israel

## Harrassment Intensifies With Prayer Meet Attack

By Elizabeth F. Smith  
JERUSALEM (BP) — An angry mob attacked Christians meeting for prayer and Bible study June 17 in Rishon Letzion as harrassment against Jewish-Christian believers intensified, following the passage of "anti-missionary" legislation.

Some 200 religious extremists forced entry into the home of Arthur Goldberg where Christians were gathered for their regular Saturday morning Bible study and prayer.

They tore up Bibles and hymnbooks, brandished their fists and shouted abusive language as they rampaged through the house.

Threats were made to run the believers out of town or to hang them on telephone poles. The mob also talked of arson and bodily harm. They attacked a car bringing a blind visitor to the meeting, tore off its door and tried to pull the occupants out.

The Jewish-Christian group was accused of kidnapping 12 children and locking them in a room to await

"shipment to the mission in Jerusalem."

Once again the wording of the recent "anti-missionary" legislation, known as the Abramovitz Law, was used to explain the reason for such violence. The attackers returned during the night and tried to stir up neighbors by describing the Goldbergs and their friends as "traitors," "buyers of souls," "enemies of the state," and as "using their unlimited financial resources to corrupt the minds of the young."

Goldberg, an employee of a large airline, is an Israeli citizen who immigrated in 1971. He also holds United States citizenship. He said in a press release issued June 18 that this event is "another link in a chain that is now disconcertingly and rapidly growing and indicates the kind of climate the recent anti-mission law is creating." He believes that "pressure must be brought to bear on the Israeli government to put an immediate end to these events."

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## Missionary Shot In Guerrilla Crossfire

BISLIG, Philippines (BP) — James I. (Bo) Stanley, Southern Baptist missionary to the Philippines, has been released from Andros Soriano Hospital after being accidentally shot June 27 during a crossfire between the New People's Army and the Philippine military.

Stanley was driving through the area when he was hit in the shoulder by a gunshot not intended for him or other missionaries or whites, according to William R. Wakefield, the SBC Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Southeast Asia.

The shooting occurred in the timberlands owned by Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines. Stanley works closely with company personnel and lives on land purchased from it.

The New People's Army is part of a communist guerrilla movement in the Philippines. Fighting between these rebels and government forces has gone on for several years but had been slack during a cease-fire in recent months. Stanley is the first Southern Baptist missionary to have been hurt in the fighting.



Ballard White's predecessors at Eagle Butte experienced rapid turnover, lasting from a few months to barely over a year. But 12 years ago the Home Mission Board missionary-pastor and his wife Bonita came to stay... and have been accepted by the people. (He and Bonita are the adults on the fence at right) BP photo by Nolan Benfield.



## Mississippians Among Group

# Foreign Board Appoints 55, Approves 13 New MSC Workers

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Fifty-five new missionaries, including six with Mississippi ties, and 13 new Mission Service Corps volunteers received approval from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at its June meeting.

A double line of new missionaries stretched across the auditorium stage at the Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center as the board appointed its largest group of missionaries in 31 years.

J. Roy Clifford, personnel committee chairman, said the record response in the first half of this year shows "what God is doing among the 13.1 million Southern Baptists."

One of the new missionary couples will go to Bolivia, which now becomes Southern Baptists' 91st mission field. With the latest addition, the total Southern Baptist foreign missionary force now stands at 2,838.

The 13 new Mission Service Corps personnel, recognized in a special service the night preceding the missionary appointment, almost doubled the present seven service corps volunteers serving overseas.

One hundred Missionary Journeyman candidates, now in training at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C., also were on hand for the opening session of the annual Foreign Missions Conference and to confer with missionaries from many of the more than 40 fields where they will serve. Those completing the training successfully will be commissioned July 21 in Richmond, Va.

The record for appointments at a single service was set in April 1947 when 56 of the year's total 78 appointments took place.

The board took no action on the possibility of entering Zaire. John E. Mills, secretary for West Africa, reported to his area committee on possibilities for work with Baptists in Zaire but advised against any action pending a final report on plans by another Baptist group to begin work there.

Allocations by the board included \$3,626,559 in additional funds from the 1977 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions to seven of the eight geographical areas of the world into which the board's work is divided. Funds for the Southeast Asia portion will be approved at the July board meeting.

From current funds, the board appropriated \$298,618 to buy a Univac 9030 computer to replace smaller units no longer adequate to meet the board's needs, and voted \$30,000 to pay one-third the cost of producing three motion pictures to be filmed on location in Indonesia in 1979 in cooperation with the SBC Radio and Television Commission. The commission will pay the remainder of the cost.

As work on the new wing of the board's Richmond home office moves toward a projected fall completion date, the board earmarked \$405,585 from current funds for renovation necessary in the old portion of the building, moving expenses and some equipment.

Missionaries appointed with Mississippi ties included William and Judy Davis to Bolivia (see separate story); Daniel E. Merck, Val and Mary Frances Frailey, and Grace Colson.

Merck will serve along with his wife Barbara in Thailand where he will be a surgeon. They have been special project workers in Bangkok, Thailand since April, 1977. Merck, an Alabamian, completed a one year residency at University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Val Frailey lived in Biloxi and was graduated from Mississippi State University. Mrs. Frailey is the former Mary Frances Walker of Corinth. She also attended Mississippi State. Frailey will be an English-language pastor in Morocco.

Grace Colson, the former Grace Bishop of Clinton, will go to Liberia in West Africa where her husband, Virgil, and she will work as secondary education teachers.



The Colsons



The Fraileys



The Mercks

## SBC CP Giving Up 11%

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)

Through the first nine months of the 1977-78 fiscal year, giving to the national Southern Baptist Cooperative Program is running 11.04 percent ahead of last year, according to statistics.

To date, undesignated gifts through the Cooperative Program, which funds worldwide missions and capital needs of SBC agencies, has collected \$42,856,390—a \$4,262,211 increase over the same point last year.

Total giving to national SBC causes, including the Cooperative Program figure and another \$45,491,975 in designated giving, amounts to \$88,348,365. That represents a 12.22 percent, or \$9,621,727, increase over last year.

Giving to the Cooperative Program in June, alone, increased 22.72 percent, rising from \$4,085,024 in June of 1977 to \$5,013,080 in June of 1978. That figure, plus another \$3,388,255 in designated giving in June, 1978 (a 2.16 percent decrease over June, 1977) brought total gifts for the month to \$8,401,335. That represents an overall increase for the month of 11.30 percent.

## Nadine Hall Of Purvis Dies In Accident

Nadine Hall, wife of Tom Hall, pastor of First Baptist Church, Purvis, died Friday, July 7, in an automobile accident at Kiln.

Hall is in serious condition at Forrest General Hospital, according to his secretary, Nita Jefcoat.

Mrs. Hall, the former Nadine Holland of Fayetteville, N.C., was buried in Highland Park Cemetery in Hattiesburg, July 10.

They have two children, Tom Hall, Jr., and Mrs. Tom Murphree of Waveland. Mrs. Hall had one brother, W. W. Holland of Fayetteville.

Jim Stagg, minister of education at the Purvis church, is acting pastor.

## Pastors Lead

(Continued from page 1)

vention. The meeting will be held on North Caicos.

First Church, Hazlehurst and East Moss Point Church funded the trip for their pastors as a part of the Bold Mission Thurst.

## Henderson Joins Staff

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months with the Stewardship Department and again during his 1975 furlough, he was missionary-in-residence with the Stewardship Department.

Both Guy and Lois are available to speak, teach, and conduct missions conferences and workshops. They may be written at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or called at home at 366-6014.

## 'Miss-A-Meal' Money Goes

(Continued from page 1)

dan refugees in Kenya. A separate appropriation of \$1,000 was earmarked for medicine for distribution by Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Uganda.

The board also transferred \$182,000 in relief funds assigned to Bangladesh back into general relief funds for use in other places. Grubbs explained the funds had been appropriated for specific projects on an emergency basis. As time progressed Southern Baptists gave enough designated gifts to take care of the needs of the projects and the general funds are now available to be relocated.

Grubbs and Cheyne are studying alternative uses and expect appropriation of money to other needy areas.

## SS Weeks Have A Few Spaces Left

Bryant Cummings, Sunday School Department director, reports that reservations for the four Sunday School Leadership Conferences at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, July 31-August 12 are still coming in.

Capacity enrollment, however, has not been reached and there may be reservations left even at this late date for churches who have not pre-registered for their Sunday School workers.

The dates for the four mini sessions are: July 31-August 2; August 3-5; August 7-9; or August 10-12. For reservations, write Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571.

## Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Salt Lake City (RNS) — The First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) has lifted the ban against black men holding the priesthood, stating that the decision came as a result of a revelation from God.

Minneapolis (RNS) — A committee of the Minnesota Medical Association is drafting guidelines recommending that doctors write "DNR" — for "Do Not Resuscitate" — on the charts of certain consenting terminally ill or severely brain-damaged patients. The letters "DNR" would indicate that no special action should be taken if the patient's heart stops beating or if he or she stops breathing, problems doctors call acute cardiac or respiratory arrest.

Charlotte, N.C. (RNS) — A controversial North Carolina law, one requiring religious agencies which receive most of their funds from non-members to be licensed and to submit reports to the state, has been declared unconstitutional. Plaintiffs in the case were the PTL religious television network and the Unification Churches headed by Sun Myung Moon. The decision was issued by Superior Court Sam Ervin. He held that the law exerted a prior restraint on the exercise of freedom of religion.

Rome (RNS) — The Association of Catholic Doctors in Italy has confirmed that all nuns working in private clinics which perform abortions must resign from their posts. This action comes in the wake of mounting Church criticism of an abortion law that went into effect on June 6. It permits women over 18 who are within their third month of pregnancy to receive free abortions.

Lake Placid, N.Y. (RNS) — For the first time in the history of the Olympics an ecumenical worship service will be held here on the eve of the opening of the XIII Winter Games which begin Feb. 13 and continue through Feb. 24, 1980. Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York is among the religious leaders scheduled to participate in the service. Music probably will be provided by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, according to officials here.

New York (RNS) — The Lutheran Church of America's Strength for Mission program has received \$34,415,079 in donations — exceeding the goal of \$25 million by nearly 40 percent, according to David R. Gerberding, campaign director.

## Seminaries Hold Joint Meeting

PINE MOUNTAIN, Ga. — Faculty and administration of Southern Baptist's six theological seminaries, scattered geographically from coast to coast, emphasized a theme of cooperation in their first joint meeting in 15 years.

The six Southern Baptist Convention-sponsored seminaries ordinarily have few opportunities for regular contact between their faculties.

Fellowship and discussion among counterparts in sister schools consumed large portions of this three-day meeting, but the 200 teachers and staff members also heard challenges from three key denominational leaders.

The six SBC seminaries are New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, which coordinated arrangements for the retreat; Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.; and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

Umtata, Transkei (RNS) — At least one Methodist minister has been arrested and five others are reported missing since the Transkei government outlawed the Methodist Church of South Africa on May 28. Osborne Ngcatshane was arrested for refusing to serve under the Methodist Church of Transkei, which was formed by Prime Minister Kaiser D. Mantanzima as an autonomous, independent black denomination.

New York (RNS) — The evangelist Billy Graham was named the highest achiever in the field of religion in a poll of teenagers taken by the Ladies Home Journal. "God came in second," according to the magazine. Adolph Hitler and Anita Bryant were cited as the man and woman who have "done the most damage to the world." Abraham Lincoln and Eleanor Roosevelt were viewed as the man and woman who have "done the most good for the world."

Dallas (RNS) — Howard Conatser, pastor of Beverly Hills Baptist church here, who became a controversial figure because of his involvement in the charismatic movement, died of cancer at the age of 52. Since he became pastor in 1959, the congregation's membership has gone from 300 to 5,000. It was "disfellowshipped" by the state convention and association in 1975, but continued to be part of the denomination nationally.

Indianapolis (RNS) — Delegates at the Church of the Brethren Conference meeting here voted overwhelmingly to accept recommendations of a five-person committee that Brethren surrender their own handguns and support legislation restricting availability of handguns.

Brooklyn, N.Y. (RNS) — Four Appellate Division justices have upheld the decision of the Rye (N.Y.) Board of Education to fire an art teacher at Rye High School who attempted to recruit students for her religious sect and told them to ignore parental authority. Joan LaRocca, 36, was dismissed in 1976 after parents complained to school officials that she had counseled students to ignore their authority and lie about their connection with the Julius Movement, a Connecticut group of about 300 which believes its leader, "Brother Julius," is "Jesus Christ, the Messiah."

Vatican City (RNS) — The Vatican reports that the Holy Shroud of Turin, an ancient winding sheet containing the imprint of a man many believe to be Jesus Christ, will be displayed in the Turin Cathedral from Aug. 27 through Oct. 8. The burial sheet contains strange markings which show up on a photographic negative as the face and body of a bearded man with wounds seemingly identical with those inflicted on Christ's body. Negatives also seem to show the marks of a crown, similar to the crown of thorns, around the head of the man. The sheet is about fourteen feet long and three feet wide.

## Baptists Protest Soviet Treatment

DENVER (BP) — Two Southern Baptist campus ministers were among 60 signers of a petition sent to Russian Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin protesting the trial and conviction of three Soviet Jewish activists.

Don Gurney, just named president of the Southern Baptist Association of Campus Ministers, and his wife Lynne, co-director of the Baptist Student Union at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, signed the petition.

The signers, all participants in the National Institute for Campus Ministers held at Loretto Heights College in Denver, protested the treatment of Yuri Orlov, a scientist who is a member of the Helsinki Monitoring Committee; Vladimir Spelak, an engineer; Ida Nudel, an economist and "guardian angel" according to the petition statement, "of the Prisoners of Conscience."

## European Baptists Offered Ruslikon Seminary Control

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — European Baptists will be offered financial and administrative responsibility for the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruslikon, Switzerland, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board decided at its June meeting.

The board approved a five-part recommendation to provide a maximum \$300,000 subsidy for the international seminary in 1979 if the European Baptist Federation Council accepts responsibility for the institution. The board specified the money would be

provided "if it is possible and the council so desires."

The proposal offers use of the seminary property, plus administrative control of the seminary and all other Baptist facilities at the location, for a five-year period beginning Jan. 1, 1979, with the possibility of renewal after that period.

J. D. Hughey, the board's secretary for Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia, and a special subcommittee of the board have been considering the future of the seminary since it has been hit with the twin problems of inflation and the decline in the value of the U. S. dollar. The seminary had a \$48,730 budget deficit in 1977, met by the board, and the 1978 deficit could run as high as \$100,000.

The \$300,000 subsidy proposed under the new arrangement—close to the amount provided in the board's 1978 budget for the seminary—would increase \$5,000 annually through 1983. This figure does not include the additional support given through salaries and housing of Southern Baptist missionary faculty members which the board would continue to furnish the seminary.

## Harrassment Intensifies With Prayer Meet Attack

(Continued from page 1)

The United Christian Council in Israel (UCCI) sent a telegram of protest to the new president of the state, Yitzhak Navon, with copies to the prime minister, the minister of justice, and to other key officials in the government. Part of the text read, "The UCCI wishes to express its ever deepening concern and to strongly protest the breakdown of public order whereby citizens of this country have become the target of violent attacks and harassment simply on the basis of their religious belief."

The UCCI appealed to the president "to prevent further breakdown in the exercise of human freedoms and in trust between the religious communities" by using his "considerable influence to urge the Knesset (parliament) to reconsider this harmful motivated legislation and to vote for its removal from the statute book before further serious damage is sustained by citizens and by the state."

Dale G. Thorne, administrator of the Baptist Convention of Israel, said "Baptists must continue to work with the UCCI in the fight against this law which has given religious extremists some type of official justification and stamp of approval for their anti-mission activities and harassment of Jewish believers."

Robert L. Lindsey, pastor of the Baptist church in West Jerusalem,

said that it is not likely that such a mob would attack his congregation because "it is not considered Jewish-Christian."

Lindsey also said that there was probably no direct connection between the Rishon Letzion incident and the June 9 bomb threats to Baptist House next door to his church and to the Baptist Book Store in East Jerusalem. "They are related to the general incitement to hatred of Christians engendered by the Abramovitz law," he stated.

On Saturday, June 9, in the interval between sabbath school Bible studies and the worship service, the special bomb squad of the Jerusalem police searched both the Baptist House and the Baptist Book Store after telephoned bomb threats. Nothing was found on either of the Baptist properties.

"We have sympathy for our fellow-believers, especially the Jewish-Christians who are under attack," Lindsey said. "Perhaps in the end, this will help Israelis come to realize that to accept Jesus as Messiah is a very Jewish thing."

Palatka, Fla. (RNS) — Cecil Underwood, a Southern Baptist minister who baptized evangelist Billy Graham in 1938, died at his home here June 7 at the age of 75.

## Slain Missionary's Colleagues Intent

(Continued from page 1)

turning to the kind of political turmoil Rhodesia missionaries are now facing. "Whatever the consequences we had the peace to stay until God told us to leave," Moses said. "We were not called to leave Rhodesia so much as called to go to do something else, to pioneer work in Bophuthatswana."

Whether returning to Rhodesia, or to a nation that hasn't had the visible problems of Rhodesia, the whole missionary family of eastern and southern Africa has been affected by Dunaway's death.

"A lot of our friends and relatives have expressed concern about our going back," said Betty (Mrs. Charles) Bedenbaugh. But in returning to their work in Tanzania, the Bedenbaughs feel no personal sense of danger.

Their main concern is that travel restrictions between Tanzania and Kenya have been tightened and their son will be in boarding school in Kenya. They know that even in case of an emergency, it would be difficult for them to reach their son for several days.

The R. Jay E. Stewarts will return to publications work in Kenya, another peaceful African nation. "There's risk in anything that we do," Stewart said. "The risk of physical danger in Kenya is probably about the same as driving on U.S. highways," he continued. "Risks are worth taking for doing the will of God."

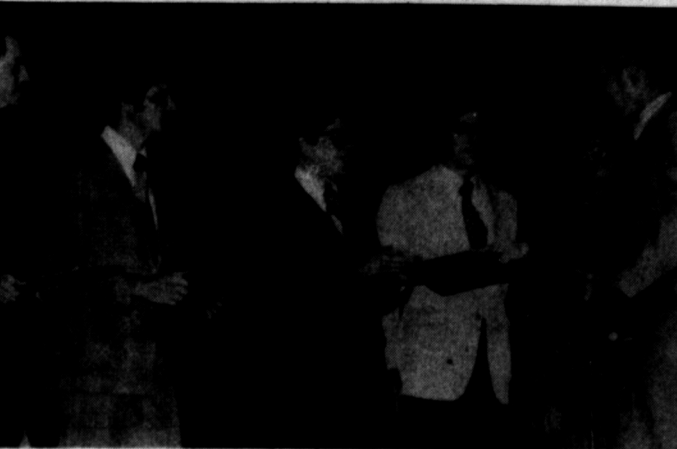
That's where the whole issue centers

## Kim Womack Dies July 10

Kimberly Lynn Womack, 7, daughter of the pastor of Wildwood Baptist Church in Clinton, died July 10 at St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis.

Kim is the daughter of Fred and Ann Womack and the granddaughter of David and Katherine Cranford. Cranford is pastor of Southern Hills Baptist Church in Jackson.

Services were to be held Wednesday at Wildwood church with burial at Lakewood Memorial Park in Jackson.



## At SBC Pastor's Conference

Hardy Denham, pastor of First Church, Newton, receives his award for writing one of the 15 sermons judged as most outstanding by the Sunday School Board.



BOLD MISSION THRUST COME SEE PRAISE THANK GO BE DO



## Bold Mission Thrust Library Center

Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, has a Bold Mission Thrust Center in its library where Bold Mission books and other materials have been gathered for display in one place by Phyllis Nell Lane, librarian (pictured). The curios on the top shelf were borrowed from Mrs. J. Stanley McPhail, mother of Mrs. John W. McFadden, missionary in Eku, Nigeria. John Barnes is the pastor at Main Street.

### The Missions Task

## The Rod Of God

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Department

All religious leaders, those who walk out-front, need the assurance of divine assistance and support. No less was the case with Moses as he talked with God in Midian. As he left Midian to return to Egypt "... he took the rod of God in his hand" (Ex. 4:20).

In the beginning of the conversation God asked Moses "what is that in thy hand? and he said, a rod" (4:2).

This rod, probably a shepherd staff made from the limb of a tree, was an ordinary piece of equipment for those living a shepherd life. God is able to take the ordinary things we have available and convert them to powerful instruments in the hands of his servants.

As Southern Baptists face the monumental task of sharing their living faith with every person alive in the next quarter century, we must learn to use and depend on these things God chooses to use. One such possession God has given us that must be used widely and regularly if we are to succeed is stewardship education and subscription. We must teach and commit our people to the practice of Christian stewardship. With about 15 percent of our members giving 85 percent of the income of the church we can see just how far we have to go. Some 85 percent of Baptists today must be moved out of the land of bondage to materialism to the promised land of joyful, proportionate, systematic stewardship. Increasingly our better churches are already underway moving toward this promised land!

The journey is not free from problems, for many Baptists today are infected with the same spiritual maladies that plagued the ancient Israeli people. They are not willing to believe God, to depend on him, and act at his command. A majority of our people today are plainly idolatrous. Other things, other people, and other plans come before God in their lives. A great many of them are like the people of Jeremiah's day, giving God the leftovers of their lives, that which they don't want, need, or to which means nothing to them.

In the face of this discouraging picture we have in our hands that which God is using and blessing to renew our churches and cause the "bells of joy" to ring again in the hearts and lives of the people. Church members can be led away from their secret altars if we who are responsible will only use intelligently and consistently that which we have.

Every church in Mississippi, regardless of where it is located or what its size may be, should begin now a planned program of stewardship education and commitment that ties that church in a meaningful and challenging way to the task of world-wide witness in our generation.

The staff of the Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion Department is ready, as the calendar will permit, to give personal attention to the particular needs of your church if you will only open the door.

Many current problems plague us: energy, transportation costs, apathy, secularism, etc. With what we now have in our hands God can use and give us the victories we must have if only we will get up and get moving!

"What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. ... And Moses took his wife and his sons, ... and he returned to the land of Egypt: And Moses took the rod of God in his hand."

My dear brother, get up and do something! Let God have your life and bless and use that which is in your hand!

## White's Ministry Earns Sioux Acceptance

(Continued from page 1)

that's not always what's best. I have to decide if the need is real or whether it's a ploy to get more alcohol."

Indian tradition hampers them from saving their earnings. They don't store up goods, but give them away. The more you can give away, the wealthier you appear to be. "If you come upon some extra money, you throw a feast for all your friends — you don't buy shoes for the kids," White explained.

In his work with six congregations, White travels an average of 2,500 miles per month, holding Bible studies, showing films and meeting needs in places he wasn't allowed to enter 12 years ago.

He began his work slowly visiting tribal leaders and handing out tracts. He took toys to the children at Christmas. Now, he is invited into the homes. He takes layettes to each newborn, holds Bible studies at the requests of the Indians. With other missionaries, he holds summer camps for Indian children.

White's message is simple, "God loves you, and he can make your life better." But the message doesn't stop there. White realizes that he must be what he preaches.

White's predecessors at Eagle Butte

experienced rapid turnover, lasting from a few months to barely over a year. But White came with a determination to stay.

"I learned a long time ago I can't bring about changes," he explained. "That just isn't my responsibility. I try to remember to just turn it over to the Lord."

(Adapted from Home Mission magazine, April, 1977. Miss Faulkenbury is an editorial assistant at the Home Mission Board.)

## Youth Mission Manual Available

ATLANTA — A manual for Mission Youth Groups is available free from the Home Mission Board Special Mission Ministries Department.

The manual entitled *As You Go* lists 51 kinds of ministries mission youth groups can perform from providing medical and dental care for needy persons to reading to the elderly.

# Home Mission Board Appoints 47 Summer Missionaries From State

Summer missionaries from Mississippi serving under Home Mission Board appointment this year number 47.

These students are among approximately 1,448 serving throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa.

Of the nearly 1,500 students, 830 are supported by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering; the remaining 618 are funded by state Baptist Student Union. 59 of these were appointed by the Mississippi Baptist

Student Union. HMB appointees from Mississippi listed by name, hometown, college and place of service are:

Robbie Ann Blue, Clarksdale, Mississippi Valley State University, New York;  
Severia Louise Crawford, Clarksdale, Mississippi Valley State University, California;  
William Eugene Carroll, Columbus, Mississippi State University, Iowa;  
Anthony O'Brien Lott, Greenwood, Mississippi Valley State University, District of Columbia;  
Howard Holder Williams, Grenada,

University of Mississippi, Maryland;  
Joy Lynn Fortenberry, Hattiesburg, University of Southern Mississippi, Utah-Idaho;

Cynthia N. McCall, Hattiesburg, University of Southern Mississippi, Ohio;

Judi Lynn Jones, Laurel, William Carey College, New York;

Karen Gene Hall, McComb, Mississippi State University, Mississippi;

Andrea Jones, McComb, Mississippi Valley State University, California;

Jerry Allen Weber, McComb, Southwest Mississippi College, Northern Plains;

Cynthia Marie Smith, Meridian, University of Southern Mississippi, California;

Terri Lynn Pigott, Natchez, Louisiana College, Maryland;

Claire Lynne Barnes, Natchez, Vanderbilt University, Maryland;

David N. Jay, Newton, Clarke College, Utah-Idaho;

Evelyn Gaither, Farrell, Mississippi Valley State University, California;

Joyce Lynn Ballard, Bogie Chitto, Copiah-Lincoln Jr. College, New Mexico;

Meredith Ann Rayburn, Booneville, Union University, New York;

Tommy Lynn Hunter, Brandon, Louisiana College, Georgia;

James Edward Carson, Canton, Alcorn State University, California;

Charles Richard Rogers, Centerville, Southwest Mississippi Jr. College, Northern Plains;

Mary Catherine Stewart, Ellisville, Clarke College, Ohio;

Bettye Diann Woods, Eupora, Mississippi University for Women, California;

Judy Kay Pennington, Hernando, Northwest Mississippi Jr. College, Michigan;

Thomas Benard Beard, Holly Springs, Northwest Mississippi Jr. College, California;

Sarah Alice Winters, Lamont, Mississippi Valley State University, Minnesota-Wisconsin;

Lisa Gaye Brannon, Lucedale, New Orleans Baptist Seminary, California;

Anne Laverne Minter, Magee, Copiah-Lincoln Jr. College, New York;

Deetra Fe Survilleon, Marks, Northwest Mississippi Jr. College, California;

Tommie Kay Breland, Mathiston, Mississippi State University, New York;

Annis Lurlene McQueen, Mendenhall, Copiah-Lincoln Jr. College, Illinois;

Kathy Ann Bryant, Mize, University of Southern Mississippi, Northern Plains;

Kathryn Ann Cochran, Nesbit, Northwest Mississippi Jr. College, California;

Lisa Joan Hiatt, Oxford, William Carey College, New England;

Karen Dean Lowell, Pascagoula, William Carey College, Indiana;

Richard R. Lloyd III, Starkville, Samford University, California;

Theresa Ann Davis, West Point, Jackson State University, New York;

Kim Taylor, Olive Branch, Mississippi College, Puerto Rico;

Joseph Daniel Holmes, Pearl, Clarke College, Ohio;

Yvonne Decarlo Larcholey, Pheba, Jackson State University, New York;

Dwight Ray Massengill, Rienzi,

Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Ohio;

Julie Milissa Melton, West, Clarke College, New Mexico;

Angel Gaye Davis, Prentiss, Clarke College, New Mexico;

Norman C. Smith, Summit, Southwest Mississippi College, Pennsylvania;

Weldon Brock Moak, Summit, Southwest Mississippi Jr. College, California;

Rhena Ellisha Adams, Terry, Mississippi State University, Maryland;

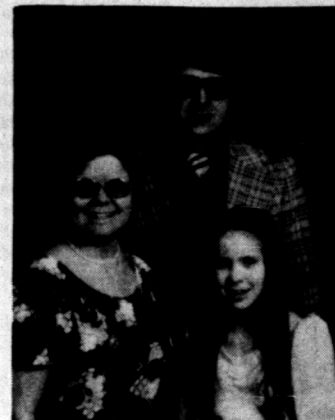
Carolyn Janice Corley, Winona, Millsaps College, New York.

## Staff Changes

and in the 1977 Edition of Who's Who in Religion in America.

He is married to the former Edwina King of Johnston Station and they have a three-year-old son, Geoffrey Lane.

H. P. Porter is the pastor of the Fernwood Baptist Church.



James Mullins is new pastor of New Hope Church near Amory. He and his wife, Susan, and daughter Michelle, came to New Hope from Bux-Mont church in Philadelphia, Pa. He has a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Valton Douglas is new pastor of North Columbia Baptist Church. He goes to Columbia from the pastorate of First Church of Helena near Pascagoula where he served 4½ years.

A graduate of Baptist Bible Institute of Graceville, Fla., he has served previously as associate pastor of McArthur Street Church in Pascagoula, and as pastor of Pilgrim Rest Church in Graceville. He plans to graduate from William Carey College in the spring of 1979.

Douglas is married to the former Frances Grice of Bunker Hill Community. They have three sons, Valton, Jr., Jimmy, and Michael.

Stan Weatherford is new pastor at Spring Hill Baptist Church in Copiah County. A 1977 graduate of Mississippi College, Stan is a second year student at New Orleans Seminary. His hometown is Valparaiso, Fla.



Willie E. Johnson has been called as pastor of Bethel Church in Brandon. He has moved from Mize where he was pastor of New Sardis Church. He was Vacation Bible School director of Smith association for the past two years. He and his wife Clarice have three children. The two pictured are Joseph, 18, and Judy, 17. Another son, Will, Jr., is in the Air Force. Johnson is a graduate of Auburn University with a master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary.



Talmadge Smith has accepted the call of Morgantown Baptist Church, Natchez, as pastor. The family moved from the New Hope Baptist Church, Monticello.

Smith is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministries degrees from New Orleans Seminary. Mrs. Smith is the former Margaret Watts of Brookhaven. Their daughters are Connie and Carla.

Charles B. (Benny) Still has accepted a call to the Fernwood Baptist Church, Fernwood, as associate pastor in music and youth. Still comes to Fernwood from Macedonia Church in Brookhaven, where he was minister of music and youth. He has served other churches in Charleston, Poplarville,



and McComb.

Still is a graduate of Clarke College and William Carey College. He is a past president of the McComb Civitan Club and was listed in the 1975 Edition of Outstanding Young Men of America.

### CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Bids are now being accepted for a theatre model 2 manual Allen Organ. Excellent condition — speakers included. Inquiries may be sent to Forest United Methodist Church, P. O. Box 68, Forest, Miss. The organ may be seen at the above church.

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# SENIOR ADULTS

## Chautauqua Tour To Ridgecrest, North Carolina October 14-21

For Senior Adults and leaders of Senior Adult Ministries.

En Route: Overnight at Choo Choo Hilton in Chattanooga and in downtown Gatlinburg and Atlanta. Sightseeing at Lookout Mountain, Gatlinburg, Smoky Mountains, Atlanta, and Stone Mountain.

Participate Monday through Thursday in a program of spiritual enrichment planned for Senior Adults by the Senior Adult Section of the Family Ministries Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Afternoons sightseeing at Mt. Mitchell and Biltmore Estates.

Total Cost: \$202.00. Advance reservation of \$25.00 required.

Mail reservation fee or write for information to Kermit S. King, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Biblical Inspiration . . .

## Statement of Faith, Message Adequate

The recent Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta adopted a resolution reaffirming the confidence of the convention in the Statement of Baptist Faith and Message adopted by the Kansas City convention in 1963.

During the course of the discussion of the resolution an effort was made to amend the resolution to describe the Bible as being inerrant and to state that it is the result of plenary, verbal inspiration.

This effort failed.

The fact that the attempted amendment failed does not mean that the majority of messengers to the convention would describe the Bible as being anything but infallible. Some might seek to establish some sort of definition for infallibility depending on whether it was the original texts or some subsequent translations that

were being discussed, but the action of the convention did not speak to the messengers' belief concerning infallibility. It simply meant that the messengers generally felt that the Statement of Baptist Faith and Message is adequate as it stands and there was no reason either to change it or to try to impose the beliefs of any segment of the convention on the body as a whole. It is possible that a great number of messengers felt as did those attempting to get the amendment passed, but they didn't want those beliefs, whether or not they held them, to become a test of fellowship.

The same is true of the effort to have the words plenary and verbal used to describe the inspiration of the Bible. Many of the messengers no doubt believe that biblical inspiration was both plenary and verbal. For those who

might not be accustomed to those words, plenary means in the entirety and verbal means an actual word-for-word dictation.

Again, however, the messengers did not want such restrictions placed on the Statement of Baptist Faith and Message, for they knew that many would not hold such convictions.

More than likely, almost every messenger at the convention would hold to a plenary view of inspiration. Paul, in II Tim. 3:16, declares that all Scripture is inspired by God, so there seems little reason to hold to any other view. Just how He went about doing it sometimes becomes the focus of sizeable debates. Some believe one way and some another. The great majority of Baptists, more than likely, however, do not care particularly how it was done, being content to accept what

they have as the best they can get and knowing that originally the Lord was responsible for every bit of it.

Peter supported the position of the Scriptures being completely inspired. In his second epistle he declares that the prophecy of old times came not by the will of man but, he added, "holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (Or, "men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." New Am. Standard) Peter's presence on the Mount of Transfiguration gave impetus to his convictions.

The debate may go on as to whether the inspiration was verbal or dynamic. But let no one say that the convention took a position that it was less than complete. That was not the import of the convention action in defeating the amendment to the resolution of reaffirmation.

### Monthly Newsletter . . .

## Village Uses Baptist Record

Readers are urged to direct their attention to Page 5 of this issue. A new idea in information presentation is to be found there as the Baptist Children's Village uses a quarter of a page for its newsletter.

The Village is purchasing this space monthly at regular advertising rates in order to make this presentation, and it is hoped that Mississippi Baptists will respond to its use. The Village will use half pages and quarter pages on

alternating months.

It was felt by Village officials, and the Baptist Record agrees, that such a presentation as this will mean a better stewardship of available funds if it is found to be effective. Instead of having

to prepare its own mailout and pay postage on it, the Village is using Baptist Record advertising space and the postage is already paid.

Take a look.

### Missions In Jordan . . .

## Evangelization Is Difficult

Southern Baptists began missionary efforts in Jordan in 1952 when we purchased a hospital from an English missionary doctor. The hospital is located in the hills of Ajloun.

For 26 years this hospital has been a base of medical care, education, and evangelism in the area. It has cared for the physical needs of the area residents as well as seeking to help in spiritual ways, and it has operated a school of nursing.

It is likely that full-scale operations at the hospital will be ceased, and it will become a clinic. Though for years it was the finest medical facility in the nation, this is no longer the fact because the nation has built two hospitals that are a great deal finer as far as facilities are concerned. Also, it has become difficult to find nursing students among the Jordanians.

A new building was erected at the hospital site in 1974, however, and it will continue to function as a clinic and as a base for missionary operations.

Other missions operations in Jordan are carried on at the Baptist school in Amman. There are 225 students in grades one through five and including a kindergarten. These students include two children of King Hussein; three children of Crown Prince Hassan; and one child of Princess Basma, the king's sister.

The school will soon add a sixth grade.

The school limits enrollment to 225 students at this time so that there will be no more than 30 students per classroom. There are 12 full-time teachers and one part-time. There are two full-time administrators.

The school receives no operating money from the Foreign Mission Board. Only capital funds and salaries are provided. Operating expenses come from the tuition, which is \$200 per year, and gifts that come from the parents and others. Next year the tuition will be raised to \$300.

The Foreign Mission Board bought the land, 5 acres, in the early 70's for

\$100,000. Missionaries say it is now worth \$250,000 per acre. The buildings cost \$150,000 and are now worth \$300,000.

Evangelistic work is slow in Jordan, for every person born there is registered for his religious beliefs according to the belief of his parents. It is almost impossible to change the registration. Therefore there are virtually no converts among the Moslems, who comprise 95 per cent of the population. There is work among those who have no religious preference at all and among the children of Christians.

### Seven Churches

There are seven Baptist churches in Jordan, two of them self supporting. All have national pastors. The pastor at Amman operates a very impressive evangelistic tape ministry. In addition to the seven churches there are seven missions or preaching points. The Baptist membership is 256 in all of the churches. Last year they contributed \$15,746. During the year there were 33 baptisms, which is to be compared with 12 for the year before. This is a reflection of an evangelism campaign Oct. 2 to 9 with visiting preachers in every church and preaching point. Before the campaign began there was a series of concerts by Joe Ann Shelton and her accompanist, Loeen Bushman, of Fort Worth.

Sunday School enrollment is much greater than church membership with 704 on the rolls. Vacation Bible School

enrollment looks even better with 926 pupils.

Missions work in Jordan is slow, but the results seem to be lasting and the people are dedicated. They are a gracious and hospitable group. Mississippian Paul Smith has been stationed there (for 16 years); but he had decided to take a leave of absence from the Foreign Mission Board shortly before the visit of six Southern Baptist editors recently. It was our privilege, and a real joy, to be able to attend the going away party the Jordanian Baptists had for the Smiths. Almost all of the Baptists in Jordan must have been there. They are lovely people, and they appreciated the Smiths.

### Developing Need

In private conversation Smith responded to a question posed by this writer that has seemed to be developing as a need on mission fields all over the world. That is that there needs to be someone, perhaps an administrator, who will have a final word on decisions that need to be made. At this point each missionary is somewhat on his own except perhaps in the case of a school teacher under a principal or a hospital worker under the direction of an administrator. In the mission, or organization of missionaries as a whole, however, there is no final word except by vote of all the missionaries at their annual meeting. Sometimes it

seems that is too long to wait.

The entire visit to Jordan was a delightful experience, due a great deal to the fact that Smith was with us all the way. But it was a great experience to be in the presence of all of the missionaries in the country. They were busy at their tasks while Smith could take off because he had about completed his duties. During his leave of absence he will be working in Saudi Arabia for Aramco in a ministry position. His command of the Arabic language and his love for and understanding of the Arabian people will be put to good use.

### Church Services

The going away party was a highlight. So was a party given by the Inner Wheel, the ladies' auxiliary of the Rotary Club in Amman. It was also a wonderful and worshipful experience to attend church services in Amman, and it was a never-to-be-forgotten experience to have been the guests of all the missionaries in Jordan at a pot luck supper in Ajloun. It was the first time for me to be in the presence of missionaries on their field.

It was at the old hospital in Ajloun that missionary doctor August Lovegren treated rebel and federal soldiers alike as he sought to heal the personal wounds of a civil uprising that wracked the country only seven years ago. Lovegren is still there. It was one of these missionary families, the Paul Smiths, that was penned down in the hall of their home during the same conflict that resulted in the death of their next door neighbor.

Being a missionary is not easy, but these people know that God directs their paths, and they are content for it to be that way. There is no other experience quite like being among them on their field.

And due to the courage of a king (affectionally called BLK, or brave little king, in Jordan) Jordan today may be one of the most peaceful nations on earth. May it continue to be so and to spread its peaceful attitude throughout the Middle East.—DTM



## —Letters to the Editor—

### Appreciation For Denham

Dear Editor:

May I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to and appreciation for Mr. Hardy Denham and his writings of the Uniform Lesson Commentary.

Mr. Denham's clear exposition and unique presentation of the Scriptures have been of great help to my efforts as an adult S. S. teacher.

Mrs. Marion D. Blacklock  
Gulfport

### Seeking Pastor

Dear Editor:

We would appreciate if you would place the following item in the "Letters to the Editor" section of your newspaper.

The Baptist Fellowship of Randolph, Vermont, is seeking the man that God has chosen to become our pastor.

Located in the geographical center of Vermont, Randolph is an attractive community in a rural environment with some light industry.

From a home Bible study, our church has developed over the past six years to a membership and average attendance of 75. Though meeting presently for worship and Sunday School in the comfortable quarters of the high school library, we have just begun planning the development of our recently purchased 33 acre parcel of ideally located woodland. This acreage has the potential for many exciting areas of ministry.

Those desiring to pursue this ministry are invited to submit a resume, including a narrative of the nature of your ministry, to Tom Lyons, P. O. Box 373, Randolph, Vermont, 05660.

Pastoral Search Committee  
Lorinda Farmer  
Secretary

### Christian Citizenship

Dear Editor:

In your editorial concerning Christian citizens, in the June 29 issue of the Baptist Record, you suggested that Christians can change the way our governmental affairs are being conducted any time we take a notion to do so, and "all that is required is for Christians to exercise their citizenship." While these statements may be true, the editorial offered no suggestion as to what must be done to cause

Christian men and women of this nation to once again accept their Christian and patriotic duties, as they relate to governmental affairs, and become actively involved in the processes of government.

Christians can and will take whatever action necessary to overcome the evils which plague our nation, once they have been truthfully informed and properly motivated. This means that Christian preachers and religious leaders must return to the type of preaching and teaching that was being performed during the formative years of our Republic — the type of preaching and teaching that was the catalyst behind the actions that brought this nation into being and made it to become the bright star in all Christendom.

Why the clergy abandoned their moral and legal right to be watchman, spokesman and leaders for Christians in governmental affairs is best known to the clergy themselves. However, for those who may be confused about the proper relationships between church and state let it be known, there is no conflict between the teaching of Christ and the written word of the Constitution of the United States.

For the most part, the future of America rests in the hands of those men and women who occupy positions of leadership in our Christian churches and denominations. If America is to continue to exist as one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all, then our Christian leaders must become active in the fight against those evil forces which are attempting to destroy America as a Christian nation.

Carl E. Tolar  
Jackson

### Appreciation For Story

Dear Editor:

Thank you so much for printing the story entitled "I Remember Daddy" in the June 15, 1978 issue of the Baptist Record. This article really touched my heart. As I sat and read the story, tears came to my eyes because I thought of my precious grandfather.

Yes, Father's Day is a time for remembering, and you made mine a little happier by thinking of Grandpa. Thank you very much.

Tommy Bryant  
Jackson

If you want to hear all about the trouble of the church, ask someone who hasn't been there for months.

## —Book Reviews—

**THE WHITE PAGODA** by Fay Angus (Tyndale, \$3.95, paper, 192 pp.) This is the fascinating story of a British subject born and raised in China toward the end of colonial involvement in that country. Coupled with the story of her growth from childhood through the haunts of World War II is the story of her spiritual pilgrimage keyed by the witness of faithful missionaries.

**LUKE STREET BOOKS** by David Lewis (Regal, 29 cents each) This is a series of eight small, full colored, Bible based books with the titles—The Crowded House, Peter's House, The Cheat's House, The Special House, The Guest House, The Rich House, The Little Girl's House, and the Country House. Attractively illustrated stories.

**WHO REALLY WROTE THE BOOK OF MORMON?** by Wayne L. Cowdrey, Howard A. Davis and Donald R. Scales (Vision House, 257 pp., paper, \$4.95) Men long have charged that parts of the Book of Mormon came from an historical novel written a few years prior to the religious book's release. These scholars believe they have found the proof of this claim, and they present that proof in this volume.

**SHARE THE NEW LIFE WITH A JEW** by Moishe and Cell Rosen (Moody, paper, 80 pp., \$1.50) The chairman of the organization, Jews for Jesus, himself a Jew who has found Jesus Christ to be the Messiah, and become an ordained Baptist preacher and pastor, tells how to share Jesus Christ with Jews in effective evangelistic witness.

**CREATIVE COUNTERPART** by Linda Dillow (Nelson, 170 pp., paper, \$2.95) A splendid discussion of marriage with its promises, joys, problems, and crises. Practical suggestions on how to make marriage work.



Three Southern Baptist editors leave a 747 jet at Amman's airport in Jordan. In the middle of the ramp with a briefcase is John Roberts of South Carolina. He is followed by Don McGregor of Mississippi and Julian Pentecost of Virginia. At left at the top of the ramp is Munib Touqan, public relations director for Alia, the Jordanian airline, who was on the flight from New York.



A Mississippian tries Jordanian cooking, roast lamb, at a Rotarian auxiliary party.



Mississippian Paul Smith, missionary to Jordan, tries the roast lamb. Mrs. Smith is in the background.

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Don McGregor Editor  
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor  
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

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Robert L. Hamblin President  
Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Baptist Building  
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS

**NEW ORLEANS (BP)** — Long-time home missionary, Mildred Streeter, director of Carver Center in New Orleans, died from a heart attack at her home two days before her 64th birthday. Mrs. Streeter was scheduled to return to her home state of Oklahoma, July 1, to become director of the Women's Center in Oklahoma City. Before her death she fulfilled a special goal of having Herbert Martin, who as a youngster attended Carver Center, appointed director succeeding herself.



Axtell Ireland

**LOUISVILLE, KY.** — Richard Dwight Axtell of Clinton and William Johnson Ireland, Jr. of Greenville are among the 16 Rice-Judson Scholars for 1978-79 named at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Named as a Judson Award winner, Axtell is a graduate of Mississippi College and a member of Highland Baptist Church, Laurel. Ireland is a member of Lula Baptist Church and a graduate of Mississippi College.

He was chosen to receive a Rice Award.

Another MC graduate, C. Douglas Weaver, of Richmond, Va., also won a Rice award.

The Adoniram Judson Scholar Award is an annual \$500 grant given for those who plan to serve as foreign missionaries. The Luther Rice Award is an annual \$500 grant given for those students who plan church-related work in the United States.

**TOPEKA, Kans. (BP)** — John Hopkins, Christian social ministries consultant for the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, will assume the editorship of the convention's "Baptist Digest," July 15, while maintaining his present responsibilities.

Hopkins, 50, will fill the role on an interim basis, succeeding Lynn P. Clayton, who will become editor of the "Baptist Message," newspaper of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Clayton had also served as evangelism director.

**GEORGETOWN, Ky. (BP)** — Ben M. Elrod, 47, senior vice president and director of development at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., has been named the 21st president of Georgetown (Ky.) College. He will assume his duties Aug. 1, succeeding Robert L. Mills, who will remain as chancellor. A native of

Little Rock, Ark., Elrod is a graduate of Ouachita and received the bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, and the doctor of education degree from Indiana University.

David W. Rogers, son of Marguerite and the late H. S. Rogers of Ridgeland, has accepted a call to be associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, Ga. He goes there from First Church, Sellersburg, Ind., where he served while a student at Southern Seminary. Earlier, while a student at Mississippi State University, he served as music director for Meadowview church at Starkville, and East End church in Columbus. He is married to the former Lee Anne Mathis of Columbus.

Rogers served while a student at Southern Seminary.

James O. Ferrugia, formerly news director of Mississippi College, has been appointed director of alumni and public affairs at William Jewell College in Missouri.

Charles Martin, vice president for academic affairs at Mississippi College in Clinton, has been elected president of the dean's group of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools.

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## Revival Dates

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5  
Thursday, July 13, 1978

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## Laotian Church Constitutes In Providence, Rhode Island

**PROVIDENCE, R. I. (BP)** — The Laotian Evangelical Baptist Church constituted in Providence, R. I., with almost as many members as the anglo mother church.

The Laotian congregation, the second Southern Baptist Laotian congregation in the U.S., has 51 charter members. The mother church, Providence Baptist, has 81 resident members.

And it is likely Laotian members will soon outnumber members in the anglo church, said Marion Hayes, pastor-director of the Providence Baptist Church.

More than 135 Laotians, including 20 youth choir members, attended the constituting service. About 500 Lao-

tians, many with a strong evangelical background, live in the Providence area.

The anglo church constituted in 1967 after beginning with seven members in 1966. In 1972, a dying community church presented the building to the congregation. Now, that building houses two Baptist congregations.

Hayes learned of the Laotian community in Providence when he was asked to perform a wedding for a Laotian family. He then contacted Joshua Vang, pastor of the Laotian Evangelical Baptist Church in Des Moines, Iowa, the only other Southern Baptist Laotian church.

At the invitation of Carlos Cobos, director of language missions for New

England, Van spent a week in Providence helping the Laotians organize a mission. Soon after his visit, the congregation, then meeting in homes, was invited to use the Providence church building.

The new church's pastor, Vang Her, receives a supplement from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's department of language missions.

Don't wait until you die to come to church.

If you do not stand for something, you will fall for anything.

## THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM  
**Baptist Children's Village**  
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213



Miss Barbara Smith, B.S.U. student summer missionary from Greenville, is serving as Director of recreational and educational activities on the Village's FARROW MANOR CAMPUS. She has scheduled CHOIR AND BIBLE STUDY times for all children and supervises recreation activities including volley-ball, softball and badminton. Special activities have included hosting after-church fellowship at Mt. Zion Church, Independence, for Village youth and Community friends on June 25; teenagers' fun trip to Liberty Land in Memphis June 27; all-campus outing at Sardis Lake July 4, with "Cotton" Foster, Home Life Director, Farrow Manor Campus, house-parents and Miss Smith accompanying the Children. On July 6, the younger children enjoyed a picnic and a trip to the Overton Park Zoo in Memphis. All children on the Farrow Manor Campus will visit in various homes during their vacation period July 15-30. Miss Smith will return to Mississippi College where she will be a senior this fall.

52 boys and girls, ages 4-11, enjoyed a successful Bible School June 5-9 under the leadership of Mrs. Annette Hitt. Activities included making puppets and presenting a puppet show. The Friday night graduation program included presentation of our VBS offering to Mr. Kermit King who served as Cooperative Program representative.

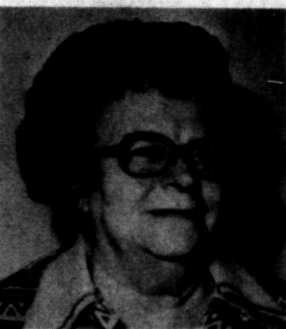
## ? REMINDERS ?

**IMPORTANT VACATION DATES** — Contact us immediately if you can have as your guest a Village boy or girl from the Jackson Campus JULY 29 - AUGUST 13.

**CHURCH TREASURER** — have you sent the annual MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING for your Church? Please check.

**HYMNALS** — Thanks to the several people who responded to our appeal. However, we still need funds to buy additional books.

We need more good Christian Houseparents. Write or call us for more information. (601) 922-2242, P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, MS 39213.



Mrs. Jessie Nolen, House-mother almost 16 years — Jackson Campus 1962-76, Farrow Manor Campus 1976-present.



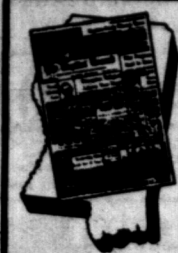
Mrs. Betty Jackson, House-mother since 1976 in New Albany Satellite Home.



Coach Weathers, Perkinson Junior College, conducts annual basketball clinic on Jackson Campus.

**WATCH THIS SPACE**  
**AUGUST 3rd.**





## Just For The Record



The youth of First Baptist Church, Kosciusko, held a bike hike, and overnight retreat at Central Hills Baptist Retreat on June 16. The Friday night devotional message was brought by the pastor, Ed Gandy. The Saturday morning sunrise service was conducted by Levon Moore, Attala director of missions. Several adults assisted with this retreat which was coordinated by Barry Corbitt, minister of youth.

Prospect Church in Richton will observe homecoming on July 16 beginning with Sunday school at 10 a.m., worship service at 11:00, and dinner on the ground. The guest speaker will be Dexter Truesdale from Nicholson. Michael Sullivan is pastor.



On March 26, the Acteens of Lakeland Baptist Church, Mantachie, had a Recognition Service in which they received awards for activities they had completed during the past year. Front Row: Attendants, Marsha West, Joey Lindsey, Julie Kitchens, Matthew Pettigo, Patrick West, and candle lighter Laura Pettigo. Back Row: J. D. Johnson, pastor; Rose Poteet, candle lighter; Eugenia Poteet, Queen; Midge Mullins, Queen; Dawn Johnson, Queen with Scepter and Queen Regent; Jan Davis, Queen with Scepter; Melinda Reich, Queen; Mrs. Carolyn Davis, Acteen leader.

The steering committee of the Baptist Student Union of Mississippi Delta Junior College presented to Mrs. Carl Dunaway the following resolution in the First Baptist Church of Anguilla. Dunaway was committee chairman for more than 10 years until his death in February.

"Be it resolved and spread upon our permanent minutes that we hereby acknowledge with deep gratitude the faithful and long service rendered to our program by our chairman, Mr. Dunaway. The unlimited measure of his time and wealth given across the years has largely contributed to the effectiveness of our ministry. His unselfish devotion, so evident in his church and community, was manifest here through his leadership for more than a decade." Richard Rollins, chairman; Cornell Daughtry, director.

Homecoming for Payne Baptist Church near Charleston will be July 9. Speaker for the morning service will be former pastor V. R. Crider. A covered dish dinner will be served, then inspirational music will be provided at 2 p.m. by the Gospel Travelers. All former members and friends are cordially invited.

First Baptist Church of Greenville welcomed their new pastor, James L. Heflin and his family on January 29, and a reception was given in their honor on June 4. The reception was delayed to coincide with the opening of the church's new Family Life Center.



Heflin and his family on January 29, and a reception was given in their honor on June 4. The reception was delayed to coincide with the opening of the church's new Family Life Center. Members of the church and friends and pastors of other churches and denominations were present to officially welcome them to Greenville. Harry Vickery, chairman of the pulpits committee and Robert Taylor, chairman of the deacons and their wives served as hosts for the reception.

Youth of Freedom Church, Jones County, observed Youth Day recently along with Pastor Appreciation Day for Pastor Billy Ingram who has served the church seven years.

The youth had charge of services. Dewayne Strickland was Sunday School director; Eddie Lowrey led the youth choir; Bruce Strickland was youth pastor; Danny Adams delivered the morning message.

J. T. Norton, chairman of deacons, presented the pastor an anniversary card and told him a gift to his family, a china hutch, was on display in the recreation hall. The Ingrams' daughters, from north Mississippi, were present.

Lunch was served at the church. The Brown Family sang at the afternoon service.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Columbus includes funds in its annual budget for sending up to ten messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention each year.

Messengers to the 1978 meeting in Atlanta were Mrs. Ethel Pelton; Mrs. Lillian Weathers, church clerk; Mrs. Elaine Schackelford; Mrs. Norma Oswald, Mrs. Betty Hill; Charles Forrester; Ray Hill, pastor; and Harrel Wilcox, minister of music and youth.

Sunday evening following the convention, messengers gave firsthand reports of the business activities of the convention to the church.

## Vermont Mission Constitutes Church

The Precision Valley Baptist Church, previously known as the Springfield Baptist Chapel, Springfield, Vermont, was constituted as a church on June 4. The service of dedication was held at the Union Street School in Springfield.

Precision Valley Church, affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, began five years ago as a living room Bible study. There are now 32 members.

The pastor, Aubrey C. Jones, his wife Peggy, and daughter Kathy moved to Vermont from Mississippi in 1976. They left two daughters in the state — Pam, who later graduated from Clarke, and Angela, who has married and now lives in Yazoo City.

Jones was formerly pastor at Holly Bluff Church and at Ellard.

Of the Vermont congregation, he says, "God is blessing our church and we are trying to buy some property and build a building some day. This is one of our real needs now as we are meeting in three different places during the week plus homes."

"On Sunday mornings we meet in a school building, Sunday evenings in a convalescent center, and Wednesday nights in a Masonic Hall. Then at other times we meet in homes. Property here is very expensive so we ask for your prayers as we take the next giant step for our Lord here in Vermont."

Jones lives at 6 Curtis Street, Springfield, Vt. 05156.

## J. W. Massie Dies Of Heart Attack

James William Massie, 76, died at Panola Regional Hospital on June 14 after a heart attack.

He was pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Sardis for 22 years where he also operated a barber shop at his home.

Massie is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lura Lee A. Massie; two daughters, Mrs. Doris Warlick of Memphis, and Mrs. Farris Fulmer of Little Rock; his mother, Mrs. Nan R. Gordon of Water Valley; a sister, two half sisters and two half brothers.

## Highland Honors Senior Adults

Highland Church, Meridian, recently observed senior adult week. Activities began on Sunday with the senior adults leading in the morning worship service. Marcus Smith, a retired minister, preached.

An informal reception was held from 2 until 4 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elmo McLaurin, honoring the senior adults. McLaurin, minister of education, works with this group in the church. Acteens were hostesses.

On Tuesday evening a "grandparents brag party" was held in the church fellowship hall. Each grandparent brought photos of his grandchildren and a sharing time was held giving each person time to tell of his grandchildren and their activities. A fellowship period followed.

Senior adults were guests of the church for the Wednesday family meal.

Thursday morning, senior adults went to Clarko State park for a picnic lunch.

This group, the Go-See-Do Club, meets on a monthly basis. This was the first time there had been a week-long emphasis given for them. Jackie C. Hamilton is pastor; Jim Hess is minister of music.

## Crosby Plans Lay Renewal

Crosby Church will have Lay Renewal Weekend July 21-23.

"We extend an invitation to anyone who would like to come and join us in our fellowship," states Raye Lynn Bradley of Crosby.

## Uniform Lesson

# The Steadfast Workers

By Jackie C. Hamilton, Pastor, Highland, Meridian II Thessalonians 3:1-16

Paul comes to the end of the letter to request that his people pray for him. There is something deeply moving in the thought of this giant among men asking for the prayers of the Thessalonians who so well recognized their own weakness. Nowhere is Paul's humility more clearly seen.

Requests for prayer (3:1-2)

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may speed on and triumph, as it did among you." The thought is: "Keep on making us the subject of your prayers." "Speed on" is literally "run". It does not necessarily imply that the preacher must talk quickly, but he should be quick to take any opportunity which comes. Glory is for the Lord and in a deep sense He is present in the Word preached and in the Word written. To that extent it is in order for the Word to be glorified.

"And that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men." If the preachers are silenced, the Word is unglorified. Apostolic freedom would mean that the Word would go on running. "For not all have faith." Here lies the reason for their character and their opposition. Paul might be thinking that not all Jews are Christians.

In the Lord (3:3)

Their confidence was in the Lord. "But the Lord is faithful; He will strengthen you and guard you from evil." The Lord is credible in word, dependable in person. Faith in him is not misplaced. Three factors are involved: The Lord's character (cf. Romans 3:3; II Timothy 2:13), the apostle's prayer just offered (2:16f), and vine providence (I Corinthians 10:13).

In the Thessalonians (3:4)

"And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things which we command." If we detach "In the Lord" we can translate: "We have confidence" in you. This is the meaning, but to repeat "in" would be very inelegant.

The confidence was felt because writers and readers alike were "in Christ". There is a pastoral touch: Paul was careful to give encouragement by stating that they are already doing what he wants them to do (cf. I Thessalonians 4:1).

Its secret (3:5) "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ." We wish people God-speed in social life when they are taking a journey, and that is the picture here. Only here the journey is not to Thessalonica but a journey of your hearts.

To some extent they were doing it already, as Christians, but they were shown the prospect of a deeper experience at the end of a spiritual journey and indeed on the journey itself.

Withdraw (3:6) "That you keep away from any brother who is living in idleness." Deeds may achieve what words cannot. The Christian brotherhood must now bring home to the culprits what the Lord's will was. The action was still within the fellowship, as excommunication was not in view.

Paul may have felt also that it was wise to avoid the possibility of "infection". The KJV translation "that walketh disorderly" means a moral verdict on men who were not at their posts, were not where they ought to have been—at work.

Imitate (3:7-10) "For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us." They had seen the life in action. It was not a question of merely hearing lectures on the subject. "We were not idle when we were with you." The apostles must have left a lasting impression on the young church. Paul was fond of reminding his readers of what they already knew. "We did not eat anyone's bread without paying." This is not the spirit of some who are proud that they stand on their own feet. "But with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you." Paul repeats his point. He had spoken in a similar way in the first epistle (I Thessalonians 2:9).

"It was not because we have not that right." The preachers could have insisted on the support of the church, for they had the authority of Jesus behind them. "The laborer deserves his food" (Matthew 10:10) and "His wages" (Luke 10:7). "But to give you in our conduct an example to imitate." Paul provides a second motive. The apostles worked for their living to avoid causing hardship and to set an example. "For even when we were with you, we gave you this command."

The recollection of detail is perhaps an indication of his deep love for his converts. "If anyone will not work, let him not eat." The situation was to be handled by deed as well as word. The shirker was not to be given his sustenance. This was a drastic and stern remedy and some might have detected an absence of charity. But Paul was concerned with the public image of the church, and there seems to have been

a hard core of resistance to his teaching.

Admonish (3:11-16)

"For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work." Their Christian walk was no more than talk. "Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness." This is now the direct address, from apostle to member,

which combines a straightforward command with "persuasion with authority." "And to earn their own living," means literally, "to eat their own bread." This recalls verse 8 and brings out how the apostles should be imitated. "Brethren, do not be weary in well doing."

Even in a religion of grace there is ample room for human effort. It springs from salvation and does not contribute to it. In stating "If anyone refuses to obey what we say in this letter," Paul is the realist; but his language is hypothetical and it may have been designed as a "threat," the effectiveness of which would remove the need for its implementation. "Note that man, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed;" precise instruction was given for complete isolation. But the door was not to be bolted against him. "Do not look on him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother." Though isolated, he still belongs to the fellowship.

longs to the fellowship.

It is evidently supposed that the erring member will take the initiative in speaking to other members of the church. Paul was giving guidance on how to receive him. The meaning is not quite "admonish him as if he were a brother" because he still is a brother. Paul wanted them to keep that in mind as they admonished him. This is very important. Unbrotherly criticism may do more harm than good. Even admonition can be expressed in a spirit of love. "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways."

The ultimate healer of any rift is the Lord, the author of peace, wholeness and unity. Whether the church will accept the gift depends on the vitality of its Christian faith. "The Lord be with you all"—including the obstinate brother. Paul may therefore be expressing a hope or prayer, or reminding his readers of a fact.

## Life and Work Lesson Rooted In Christ

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First Colossians 2:1-23

Paul declared an emergency! The situation in the church at Colossae was an emergency reality and called for immediate and drastic action. Because of false teaching from the leaders on the inside, the church was about to be destroyed. Spiritual aspirin was not enough; it was time for major, emergency surgery. Like a surgeon faced with a malignancy, Paul used his words to expose the danger threatening the Colossians. Then to insure their spiritual recovery and health, he prescribed loyalty to Christ. All the Colossians needed was Christ, and they should disregard the criticism they were getting from the false teachers.

The Christian life is not a courageous march of blind faith. As one moves toward the goal of life he has all the riches of assured understanding. The understanding is the knowledge of God's mystery — Christ. God has revealed Himself in Christ. The previous hidden has now been revealed to persons in Christ.

The false teachers had made much of secrets and hidden wisdom. Paul stressed that God had revealed the location of the hidden treasure. Christ is that place. "A Christian does not have to know everything in order to be con-

fident that he knows the most important thing of all: Christ is God's way of redeeming man."

Loyalty to Christ

Christ reveals God to man in such a way that he can understand God's love and life. This is life. How can one protect himself from deceptive doctrines that would cripple his Christian life? Loyalty to Christ remains the key to fulfillment in Christian living.

Christians have received a Person. He is Christ, the Lord. They are to devote themselves to live in Him. The term "live" means to walk. To walk or live is to be on the way to a goal. The Christian walks in Him, not just with Him. Believers must be in Him before they can grow and walk like Him. Christ-like character comes from being planted in the good soil of salvation "in Christ" with His spiritual life flowing through us to make God's way easy.

There are four essentials in the Christian's life to keep him loyal to Christ:

(1) The first term "rooted" was used to a great tree with massive roots providing its nourishment and support. Faith in Him like the roots in the ground; the deeper the roots, the higher the tree can rise. The roots of the life must be rooted in Christ, not the culture around them.

(2) The second term "built up" was

used to refer to buildings being added to or being constructed. To be a Christian is to be involved continuously in the process of becoming what God would have one be.

(3) The term "established" was used to refer to things being solid, firmly fastened, or immovable. This is not a closed mind attitude but a firm anchor in Christ as Lord.

(4) The term "abounding" is the fourth term used to have more than usual of something. "Abounding in thanksgiving" because he lives in the awareness of God's gifts through Christ. The Christian is amazed at God's power experienced in daily life.

The Warning Against False Philosophy

There have been several allusions so far in Colossians about the errors of Colossae. Paul in this section makes his most direct attack against the Colossian heresy. The warnings concern false philosophy (v. 8-15), legalism (v. 16-17), angel worship (v. 18-19), and asceticism (v. 20-23).

Paul's first warning is against false philosophy or, more precisely, against being taken captive through a false philosophy. The term "philosophy" refers to speculations devoid of all good and unable to meet the needs of the soul. This high sounding nonsense could drag the Colossians and others away into spiritual enslavement.

The warning against legalism does not give elaborate discussion but brief notices about erroneous practices. Do not let any one judge you by observance or non-observance of the regulations of the Mosaic law.

The third warning is "let no one deny your claim to be a genuine Christian by imposing a voluntary humility and worshiping of the angels." The Gnostics probably insisted that their worship of angels rather than the Supreme God was an expression of humility on their part. The error is that without contact with Christ there can be no growth.

The fourth warning is against ascetic restrictions (man made rules imposed as a means of gaining favor with God). The ascetic sees the body as evil and the way to holiness is to deny the body's desires and refuse its appetites. Genuine piety grows out of inward conviction generated by a consciousness of union with Christ.

Christ is the Lord. He is the head of all authority. He is the source of true Christian living. Christ must be enthroned in every Christian's life as the Lord who directs him. For this reason the Christian is able to see beyond ritual to reality, beyond doctrine to personal truth, and beyond human advice to the will of God. Christ is all I need. He is the source and the sustenance of the Christian's life.